

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NIAMEY 03014 100831Z

11

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 EUR-25 PC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 A-01 SCA-01 SY-04 PPT-02

OPR-02 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGR-20 NASA-04 LAB-06 DOTE-00

INT-08 PER-05 ORM-03 SR-02 IO-14 EA-11 DRC-01 /233 W

----- 084579

R 091414Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8792

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBSSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NIAMEY 3014

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, PINS , NG

SUBJECT: DIPLOMATIC TRAVEL

REF: NIAMEY 2325; B. NIAMEY 2859

1. IN CIRCULAR NOTE DATED SEPTEMBER 3, DEAN OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT TRAVEL BAN ON DIPLOMATS IMPOSED BY NEW REGIME AT TIME OF COUP HAD BEEN LIFTED. HENCEFORTH, FOREIGN DIPLOMATS ARE FREE TO TRAVEL WITHIN COUNTRY, PROVIDED THEY INFORM MFA IN WRITING ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE OF PROPOSED ITINERARY.

2. COMMENT: DURING MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

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DJERMAKOYE SEPTEMBER 7, HE BROUGHT UP SUBJECT OF TRAVEL

RESTRICTIONS ON DIPLOMATIC TRAVEL AND ACKNOWLEDGED LIFTING

OF BAN WAS LONG OVERDUE. HE EXPLAINED THAT BAN HAD BEEN INITIALLY IMPOSED BECAUSE OF FEARS THAT UNNAMED FOREIGN DIPLOMATS MIGHT ATTEMPT LIBERATE FORMER PRESIDENT DIORI AND SMUGGLE HIM OUT OF COUNTRY. ACCORDING TO LOCAL GOSSIP, REGIME IN EARLY DAYS WAS FEARFUL OF FRENCH ATTEMPTS TO RESCUE DIORI AND MORE RECENTLY WERE DISTURBED OVER REPORTS THAT NIGERIAN EMBASSY OFFICIALS HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED PHOTOGRAPHING ZINDER RESIDENCE OF DIORI WHERE HE IS UNDER HOUSE ARREST. IN ANY EVENT, DJERMAKOYE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT BAN NO LONGER MADE SENSE AND SAID IT WAS MY INTERVENTION WITH KOUNTCHE ON AUGUST 26 IN CONNECTION WITH DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE FOR AGADEZ WHICH REQUIRED ME TO VISIT AFFECTED AREAS (REF B) THAT HAD MADE PRESIDENT AGREE TO RECONSIDER AND LIFT BAN ON TRAVEL.HECK

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Message Attributes

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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